

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a first detector for detecting that a consumption article has reached its life;

a second detector for detecting that the consumption article has reached a certain timing before its life;

a third detector for detecting an application of power and/or releasing of a power saving mode of the image forming apparatus;

a first controller for making a display portion provided at the image forming apparatus display an alarm advising a replacement of the consumption article and for making the image forming apparatus inactivate in a case where the application of power and/or the releasing of the power saving mode of the image forming apparatus is detected by the third detector after the second detector detects that the consumption article has reached the certain timing before its life but before the first detector detects that the consumption article has reached its life; and

a second controller for releasing the alarm display and enabling the use of the image forming apparatus when a specific input means is operated during the displaying of the alarm on the display portion.

2. The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the alarm display is performed using an entire screen of the display

portion.

3. The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the specific input means is a touch key to be displayed on a part of a display screen where the alarm is displayed.

4. The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the consumption article is an imaging unit including a photosensitive drum.

5. The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the consumption article is a fixing unit including a fixing roller.

6. The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the consumption article is a toner cartridge.

7. The image forming apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the consumption article is a paper feeding unit.

8. A control method of an image forming apparatus equipped with a first detector for detecting that a consumption article has reached its life, a second detector for detecting that the consumption article has reached a certain timing before its life, and a third detector for detecting an application of power and/or releasing of a power saving mode of the image forming apparatus,

the method including the steps of:

a step of executing a content of a first controller for making a display portion provided at the image forming apparatus display an alarm advising a replacement of the consumption article and for making the image forming apparatus inactivate in a case where the application of power and/or the releasing of the power saving mode of the image forming apparatus is detected by the third detector after the second detector detects that the consumption article has reached the certain timing before its life but before the first detector detects that the consumption article has reached its life; and

a step of executing a content of a second controller for releasing the alarm display and enabling the use of the image forming apparatus when a specific input means is operated during the displaying of the alarm on the display portion.

9. The control method as recited in claim 8, wherein the alarm display is performed using an entire screen of the display portion.

10. The control method as recited in claim 8, wherein the specific input means is a touch key to be displayed on a part of a display screen where the alarm is displayed.

11. The control method as recited in claim 8, wherein the consumption article is an imaging unit including a photosensitive

drum.

12. The control method as recited in claim 8, wherein the consumption article is a fixing unit including a fixing roller.

13. The control method as recited in claim 8, wherein the consumption article is a toner cartridge.

14. The control method as recited in claim 8, wherein the consumption article is a paper feeding unit.